(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to have diplomatic representatives in all the ersrtwhile Soviet Republic especially Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and the Eastern Islamic Republics?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Some tentative suggestions have been made in this direction and are under Government's consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. At this stage Government are not considering establishment of resident Missions in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania nor in all of the Central Asian and Trans-Caucasian Republics of the USSR. Concurrent accreditation is being considered as a method for establishing diplomatic contacts.

Fishermen kept in Bangladesh Jail

1663. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two rishermen belonging to Tamil Nadu were kept in Jail in Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by our embassy to release the fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Assistant High Commission of India, Chittagong extended consular assistance including engaging of a local lawyer. With intervention of Indian Mission, the two fishermen were safely repatriated to Calcutta on 5-11-1991.

Dicussion on Aid to establish Multi Party Democracies

1664. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 282 given in Rajya Sabha on the 26th November, 1991 and state:

(a) whether at the Common Wealth Summit meet at Harare, India opposed the proposal to link aid to establishing multi party democracies and good government;

(b) if so, what was the original British and Canadian proposal and what was the Indian stand in regard thereto; and

(c) the final decision of CHOGM in regard thereto and the Government's' reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) During the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at Harare, some countries referred to linkages between overseas development assistance and respect for democratic norms and Human Rights, or for "good government". However, there was no formal proposal about such a linkage in the Meeting. While India fully respects and observes democratic norm's and Human Rights etc., it regards such a linkage as inappropriate.

THE CHOGM documents do not refer to this issue.

भारतीय विदेश नीति में परिवर्तन

1665. श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार सोवियत संघ के विघटन के पश्चात् भारतीय विदेश नीति में भारी परिवर्तन करने का विचार रखती है और यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार भारतीय नेतृत्व में तीसरी दुनियां के देशों का एक संगठन बनाने का विचार रखती है जिसमें राष्ट्रीय सहयोग, आर्थिक और सामरिक सुरक्षा प्रमुख विषय होंगे ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार यूरोपीय समुदाय की तरह एशियाई, अफ्रीकी और लातीनी-अमरीकी देशों का एक समुदाय बनाने का विचार रखती है और यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री माधवसिंह सोलंकी) : (क) भारत की विदेश नीति ऐसे सिद्धान्तों पर आधारित है जो समय की कसौटी पर खरे उतरे हैं और जिसमें हमारे राष्ट्रीय हित प्रतिलक्षित हैं । यद्यपि हम आधारित सिद्धान्तों पर दृढ़ हैं, परन्तु सरकार ने यह सुनिश्चित किया है कि भारत के राजनयिक प्रयासों में परिवर्तनशील अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय परिस्थितियों के अनुकूल आवश्यक लचीलापन रहे । इसी संदर्भ में हमारी विदेश नीति सोवियत संघ की हाल की घटनाओं के प्रति सर्जनात्मक दृष्टि से क्रियाशील है । मैंने 14–18 नवम्बर, 1991 तक मास्को की यात्रा की और सोवियत राष्ट्रपति गोर्बाच्योव तथा रूसी महासंघ के राष्ट्रपति येल्तसिन तथा सोवियत और रूसी सरकारों के अन्य उच्चाधिकारियों के साथ व्यापक चर्चा की ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) जी नहीं । यह उस समय तक व्यवहार्य नहीं होगा जब तक कि इन क्षेत्रों के देशों के बीच अधिक समरूपता न हो ।

Arms Training by Indians Pakistan

1066. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleaesd to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Tribune' dated 4th November, 1991 regarding undergoing of arms training in Pakistan by over 20,000 Indians SCs and other socially backward communities in the areas other than occupied Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Government have seen a newspaper report to this effect.

(b) There is no evidence to confirm this report.

International Organisation sugges. tions to India for reducing Defence expenses

1667. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of international organisations and individual countries which have formally or publicly suggested that India should reduce its expenditure on defence;

(b) the response of Government of India to these suggestions; and

(c) the national, regional, international implications of these moves for India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The question of reduction in defence expenditure has been formally raised with us by Germany, Japan and Netherlands. These countries however have not singled out India alone and similar approaches have also been made with other developing countries.

(b) and (c) We have drawn attention of these countries to the decline in real terms in our defence expenditure in the recent years. We have also stressed the need to maintain a minimum defence preparedness bearing in mind our defence requirements.